Modernisation of IISCO Steel Plant

1316. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:
SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the time table for modernisation of IISCO Steel Plant (ISP) and what are projected dates of commissioning of the main units;

(b) whether there is already some delay in the time schedule;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to avoid cost and time overrun?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) The Expansion of IISCO Steel Plant is scheduled to be completed by the year 2010-11. The major units like Coke Oven Battery, Blast Furnace, Steel Melting Shop and Rolling Mills are likely to be commissioned progressively from 2009 to 2010.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Problem of steel manufacturers

1317. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that several established and large steel manufacturers have taken legal recourse due to rejection of applications by the Government of Jharkhand without the approval of Central Government;

(b) if so, what are the details and representations received in this regard; and

(c) whether New Mineral Policy will address the problems and difficulties being faced by the steel manufacturers in Jharkhand and other mineral producing States and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) In so far as steel manufacturing Public Sector Undertakings under the Control of Ministry of Steel are concerned on 12.12.2004, the State Government of Jharkhand cancelled three number of iron ore mining leases namely Ajitaburu, Sukri Latur of Chiria mines and Jhillingburu-I of Gua mines and further that of Tatiburu on 25.6.2005 pertaining to Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL). SAIL submitted revision application to Ministry of Mines, Government of India on 2.2.2005. On 8.11.2005, Mining Tribunal quashed and set aside the rejection orders and directed the State Government to reconsider the renewal of leases. Against the Mining Tribunal Order, the State Government approached Hon'ble High Court in June, 2006. Till date, 16 hearings have been held in Hon'ble High Court of Jharkhand.

(c) New Mineral Policy named "National Mineral Policy, 2007" is presently under consideration of the Government.